

**Patent claims**

1. Window lift system, especially for a side window of an automotive vehicle, comprising a pulling device and a catch (2) for a window pane (3) which can be moved up and down by this pulling device, said catch (2) having a first fastening point (7) for an upwardly pulling end (8) of the pulling device and a second fastening point (9) for a downwardly pulling end (10) of the pulling device, which point is horizontally off-set from this first fastening point (9) in the window pane plane when the window pane (3) is fitted, **characterised in that** the window lift system has means for positioning and fixing the catch (2) at least in respect of three degrees of freedom such that the catch (2) can be kept in a position defined in respect of these degrees of freedom even when the window pane (3) is not fitted.
2. Window lift system according to claim 1, **characterised in that** the above-mentioned means for positioning and fixing the catch (2) are suitable in respect of four, five or six degrees of freedom.
3. Window lift system according to one of claims 1 or 2, **characterised in that** the pulling device has a cable pull or a chain to which the above-mentioned ends (8, 10) belong.
4. Window lift system according to one of claims 1 to 3, **characterised in that** the catch (2) has an upwardly opening slit (14) for receiving a lower edge (15) of the window pane (3).
5. Window lift system according to one of claims 1 to 4, **characterised in that** the catch (2) has at least one locking

element (16) for snapping into a recess in the window pane (3).

6. Window lift system according to one of claims 1 to 5, **characterised in that** the catch (2) has at least one opening (17), a pin being provided to be received as an exact fit by this opening (17) as well as by a recess in the window pane (3) which is aligned with this opening (17) once the window pane (3) is fitted.
7. Window lift system according to one of claims 1 to 6, **characterised in that** the means for positioning and fixing are provided by a lower stop (18) for the catch (2) or have such a lower stop (18).
8. Window lift system according to claim 7, **characterised in that** guiding means are provided for the lateral guidance of the catch (2) at least in a lower movement section in the vicinity of the lower stop (18).
9. Window lift system according to claim 8, **characterised in that** the guiding means include walls (19), which guide the catch (2) laterally and preferably converge downwards in the manner of a funnel, and/or a cone (13) on which the catch (2) sits in a lowermost position.
10. Door or side panel module containing a window lift system according to one of claims 1 to 9.
11. Door or side panel module according to claim 10, **characterised in that** the means for positioning and fixing include an opening (20) in a panel part (1) of the door or side panel module and a corresponding opening (21) in the

catch (2), as well as a pin which can be pushed through these openings (20, 21) for fixing the catch (2) in a defined fitting position.

12. Side door for an automotive vehicle containing a window lift system according to one of claims 1 to 9 or a door module according to one of claims 10 or 11.
13. Method for fitting a window pane in a window lift system according to one of claims 1 to 9 or on a door or side panel module according to one of claims 10 or 11 or in a vehicle side door according to claim 12, the method comprising the following steps in the listed sequence:
  - positioning and fixing the catch (2) in respect of the above-mentioned degrees of freedom using the means provided for this purpose,
  - introducing the window pane (3) into the window lift system until the window pane (3) and the catch (2) assume positions which correspond to each other,
  - connecting the window pane (3) to the catch (2) as a form-fit or in a force-locking manner.
14. Method according to claim 13, **characterised in that**, before the window pane (3) is introduced, the catch (2) is fixed in a position which corresponds to a possible position of the catch (2) once the window pane (3) is fitted.
15. Method according to claim 13, **characterised in that**, before the window pane (3) is introduced, the catch (2) is not yet fixed, in respect of at least one degree of freedom, in a position which corresponds to a position of the catch (2) once the window pane (3) is fitted, and **in that** the catch (2) is only pressed into the above-mentioned position by the

introduction of the window pane (3), in which position connection of the window pane (3) and catch (2) can take place.